



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
June 16, 2025**

PRESENT: Rachele Manett, Chair
Nikolas Harris, Vice Chair
Councillor Laura White
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Jean St-Amand
Oliver Keith
Anne Sinclair
Jamil Sinno
Cathi Stevenson
Céline Vautour

REGRETS: Glenn Babcock

STAFF: Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor
Laura Bain, Accessibility Coordinator
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Accessibility Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

1.1 Annual Election of Chair

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Rachele Manett, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT Rachele Manett be nominated Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Rachele Manett was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Nikolas Harris

THAT Rachele Manett be appointed Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Rachele Manett was declared the Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Rachele Manett assumed the Chair.

1.2 Annual Election of Vice Chair

At the request of the Chair, Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Anne Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT Nikolas Harris be nominated Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Nikolas Harris was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Anne Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT Nikolas Harris be appointed Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Nikolas Harris was declared the Vice Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

1.3 Election of Active Transportation Advisory Committee Representative

At the request of the Chair, Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Active Transportation Advisory Committee Representative of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Céline Vautour

THAT Glenn Babcock be nominated Active Transportation Advisory Committee Representative of

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the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Glenn Babcock was declared the successful nominee.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor White

THAT Glenn Babcock be appointed Active Transportation Advisory Committee Representative of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Glenn Babcock was declared was declared the Active Transportation Advisory Committee Representative of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 12, 2025

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor White

THAT the minutes of May 12, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Jamil Sinno

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Active Transportation Projects for Parkland Drive and Regency Park Drive

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated June 16, 2025

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Brianna Rietzel, Transportation Engineer-in-Training, WSP Canada gave a presentation, seeking feedback on the proposed designs.

Rietzel and Erin Elridge, Active Transportation Planner responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee provided feedback on the following:

- Safety considerations regarding intersections;
- Lack of barriers between Halifax Transit bus stops and bike lanes;
- Lack of adequate space for cars to pull onto the street;
- Dangers posed by slip lanes;
- The importance of post project evaluation regarding how disabled residents navigate the built environment; and
- The importance of accessible parking spots and universal design.

The Committee requested that WSP Canada provide follow up regarding how their feedback was incorporated in the project's final design.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding options for follow up with Halifax Regional Municipality staff and WSP Canada.

9.1.2 Discussion of 2025 Annual Town Hall

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated May 12, 2025

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor spoke to the staff memorandum and requested the Committee confirm Business Unit representation at booths, specific details of the hybrid event, the layout of the event space and the general order events.

The Committee discussed the upcoming November 5, 2025 Town Hall and requested the following Halifax Regional Municipality Business Units be represented at the booths:

- Halifax Transit;
- 311/customer service (Finance and Asset Management);
- Diversity and Inclusion/ANSAIO (Office of the CAO);
- Community Safety;
- Public Works;
- Planning and Development;
- Parks & Recreation; and
- Accessibility Directorate (Provincial representative).

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor and Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 18, 2025

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

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Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant